

Dear Partners,

I am sure you know that Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. I cannot believe that the FCC could be accepting let alone supportive of such an act.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line of those companies and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, I believe that it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Please consider this matter carefully and quickly

Thank you.

Fred Cook